

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
Appln. No. 09/601,078
Docket NO. Q60201

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, and 7 are independent claims. Claims 8-10 are canceled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over *previously cited* Moseley et al. (US 5,669,993) in view of newly cited JP 4-100706 (“JP ‘706”), *newly cited* Glover et al. (US 5,238,038), *newly cited* Yamaguchi et al. (US 4,723,584), and *newly cited* JP 10-138715 (“JP ‘715”). Claims 2-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Moseley in view of JP ‘706, Glover, Yamaguchi, and JP ‘715, in further view of *previously cited* Lagnier (US 5,783,002). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Moseley in view of JP ‘706, Glover, Yamaguchi, and JP ‘715, in further view of either *previously cited* JP 62-286805 or Lagnier.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has indicated that claim 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, although Applicant disagrees with Examiner’s rejections above, in order to receive immediate allowance of the application Applicant has amended claim 1 to include all of the recitations of claims 8 and 10.

In addition, Applicant has amended rejected independent claims 2 and 7 in a similar manner. As such, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of these claims at least because there is no teaching or suggestion of the claimed pneumatic tires in

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which a direction of twisting of the block shaped land portion is *opposite to* a direction of twisting of the sipe from the contact patch area toward the bottom of the sipe.

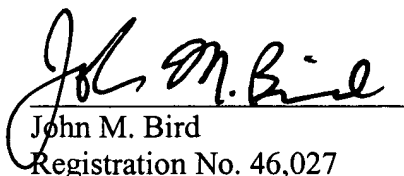
In addition, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 3-6 at least because of their dependency from claim 2.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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